



Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

March 2022

Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world's work, and the power to appreciate life. Brigham Young

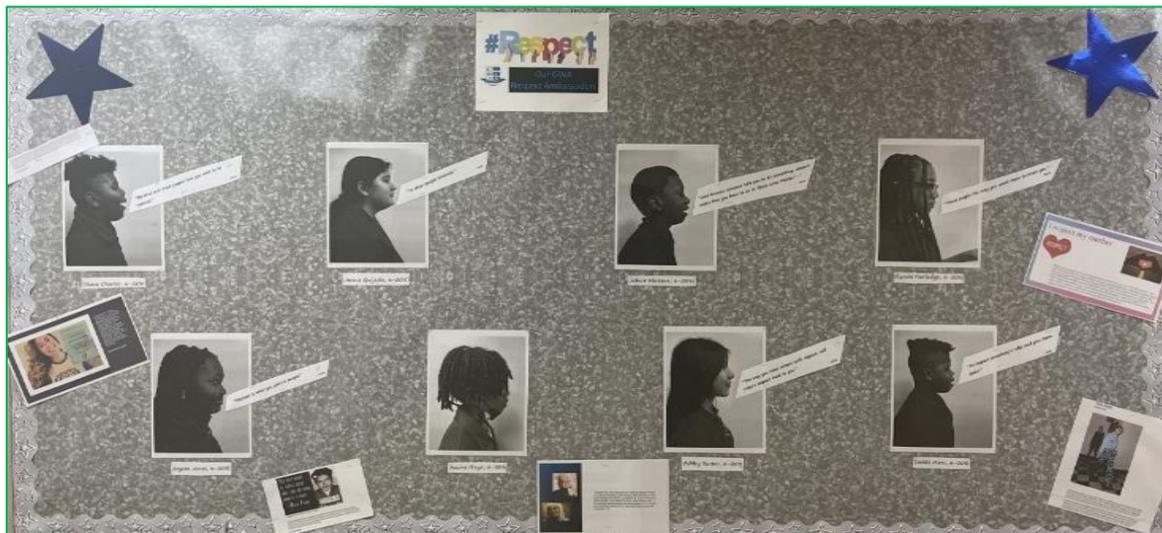
## Elizabeth Public Schools Celebrate Women's History Month and International Women's Day

Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society and has been observed annually in the month of March in the United States since 1987. Within Women's History Month is International Women's Day, a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. Over the past 100 plus years since International Women's Day was first celebrated in 1911, women have made tremendous advances throughout the world on different landscapes and in various industries.

On the local, regional, state, national, and global levels, women have increasingly seized prominent roles and have made lasting impacts on their communities and on society. Elizabeth Public Schools celebrates the strong leadership of women in our classrooms, in our administrative offices, and on our Board of Education which has been instrumental for every child in our schools, both male and female alike, to achieve excellence.



## George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1



Pre-K to eighth grade scholars celebrated International Women's Day and discussed women influences through activities, videos, and social emotional lessons. *Sixth Grade Respect Ambassadors* worked on PowerPoint presentations on women they respect and why.

## Christopher Columbus School No. 15



Students participated in Women's History Month learning about the great accomplishments of countless women that have impacted the world.

Fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Whitford, created a *Wonderful Women Wall* with her students to highlight women from athletes to scientists.

First grade teacher, Ms. Lupones, created another display with her students to highlight important historical women and their accomplishments.



## Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy



In honor of Women's History Month, students in Mrs. Craven's US II class took the International Women's Day pledge on March 8, to #BreakTheBias. Students discussed with each other a world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. Students discussed actions they could take to celebrate women's achievements and raise awareness against bias. In the photo below, students crossed their arms to show solidarity and encourage people to commit to helping forge an inclusive world. Will you #BreakTheBias?

## Elizabeth High School - Frank J Cicarell Academy



In AP Italian class, Mr. Morsella celebrated Women's History Month with his class by using Edpuzzle. The interactive course is made up of video lessons with modules on human rights, inspiring women in history, what role men can play in feminism and more.

In celebration of International Women's Day, Mrs. Greenburg had her photography students, at FJC, share women in their lives who inspire them. Students shared pictures and talked about why these women inspire them.

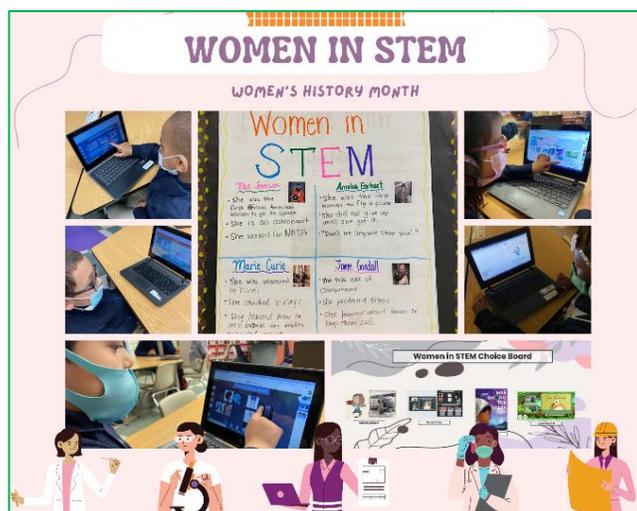


March 28 - I paint self-portraits because I am so often alone, because I am the person I know best. -Frida Kahlo



Frida, 1940

Mrs. O'Keefe inspired her art students to actively create art with quotes by inspirational women for an entire month in celebration of Women's History Month and Youth Arts Month. Students created paintings and digital artwork throughout the month.



## Elmora School No. 12

Class K-99 from is celebrating Women's History Month by learning about the powerful women in STEM fields. Kindergarten students were given a choice board to learn about different women and then completed activities and listened to stories based on the woman they chose. Students then came together to put what they learned on an anchor chart.

An excellent connection was when student Audrey Arkaifie started to talk about Amelia Earhart and said, "Never give up and do not let anyone stop you!"

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., ECC – School No. 52

Teachers and staff enjoyed a brunch on International Women's Day in the garden.



## William F. Halloran School No. 22

Second grade students, in Ms. Sutura's class, celebrated Women's History Month by making timelines of famous women in history. These timelines were displayed in the hallways for all to see.

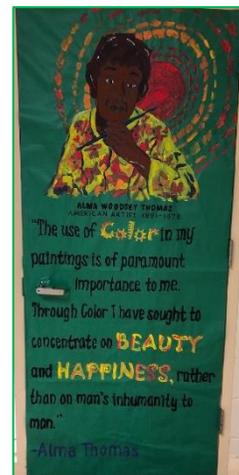


## Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy School No. 30

School No. 30 celebrates Women's History Month using art, social studies, and language art skills across all grade levels. Every Morning during the

announcements, Mrs. Festa shares facts about the wonderful contributions of women. Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy also celebrated the accomplishments of Alma Thomas. Classroom doors were decorated as well as bulletin boards.

Alma Woodsey Thomas, American Painter is known for expressionistic abstract art. She was born on September 22, 1891, and died on February 24, 1978, in Washington DC. She studied at Howard University and Columbia University. She graduated in 1924 as the university's first fine arts graduate. She was the first African American woman to have a retrospective at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. The painting called "Resurrection" by Alma Thomas is part of the White House collection of artworks and the first in this collection by an African American woman.



## Benjamin Franklin School No. 13

Each week during Women's History Month, while sharing the morning announcements, students learned about women that have been instrumental in our country. Students learned about June Bacon-Bercey, first African American on-air meteorologist. June Bacon-Bercey was a science reporter and radar meteorologist. She later became a teacher, teaching elementary and high school math and science classes.

In honor of Irish Heritage Month, Susan Collins, Senator of Maine, and Molly Brown, "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" were highlighted for their great accomplishments. Susan Collins has the distinction of being the longest tenured Republican woman currently in the senate. Molly Brown was noted for her actions during the sinking of the Titanic.

Students also learned about Mabel G. Holmes, who was the first African American principal in 1949, serving the Elizabeth Public School District in the Peterstown section of Elizabeth. She was appointed to the school board as its first African American member and one of the Elizabeth school buildings is named in her honor, Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5.



## Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy



Halsey Bulldogs never missed a beat for Women's History! Classes incorporated the following activities: virtual scavenger hunt, discussing women in science, watching the *Makers* documentaries, learning about famous poets, and learning the history, accomplishments, and contributions that women have made. The short documentaries enlightened students about women in science, business, politics, art, and other fields who are changing life for the better. In addition, students enjoyed making Women's History posters during their lunch periods!

## Woodrow Wilson School No. 19

School 19 celebrated Women's History Month by instructing students about famous women in history. Third grade students were given the assignment of choosing an influential woman in history and researching that individual. They wrote down facts they discovered about that woman and created a stamp to commemorate her.



### John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

Students highlighted their sketches and sculptures in the Dwyer iLeap Center in participation with Youth Art Month.



### Joseph Battin School No. 4

March is National Youth Art Month. Congratulations to Alison Almonte (6-307), Diego Esquivel (6-307), Angel Gutierrez (6-307), Faizan Parvez (6-307), and Isabella Yague (7-301)! Mrs. Kristine Downey, Visual Art Teacher at, selected their Chinese Dragons in watercolor for exhibition in the Art Educators of New Jersey's 2022 Union County Youth Art Month Virtual Exhibit. The main purpose of Youth Art Month is to emphasize the value of art and art education for all children and to encourage public support for quality school art programs.





## Butterflies Are Free



Eighth grade students at **Juan Pablo Duarte – José Julián Martí School No. 28** honored the victims of the Holocaust this month. Each student was given the name of a child who was imprisoned in the Terezin Concentration Camp from 1942 – 1944. They were then asked to decorate a butterfly in honor of their child. The butterflies will be hung from the ceiling during the rest of this marking period as they continue to learn and read about the Holocaust. At the end of the marking period, students will learn about the fate of their child. If their child did not survive the Holocaust, their butterfly will be cut down. This acts as a powerful visual about the sheer number of people who lost their lives during this time.

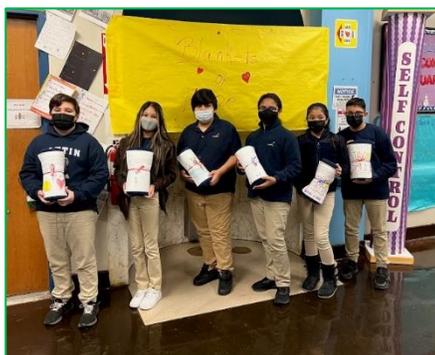


## I Stand with Ukraine

Students at **Elizabeth High School - Frank J. Cicarell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy** created cards of HOPE, PEACE, BRAVERY, & FRIENDSHIP to be sent to Ukrainian children refugees at the Polish border. Cards were decorated with the Ukrainian flags, crest, colors, and several students translated messages into Ukrainian. The empathy felt by students is clear as “#I stand with Ukraine” can be seen in many of the cards. In association with *Be the Change* at Kean University these letters of peace will be delivered with a stuffed animal in the coming days.

## Blankets of Hope

*Blankets of Hope* gave the students at **Joseph Battin School No. 4** a chance to give back to their community. Over 200 blankets were folded, personalized with a “special” handwritten note, and tied with a ribbon to then be delivered to the local shelters. The students not only had a chance to give back to their community but also a chance to keep someone warm this winter.



## Mindfulness Painting



Mr. Luciano's Social Emotional Learning afterschool program students, at **Madison-Monroe School No. 16**, spent a quiet afternoon painting while using their creativity skills. Students spent time quietly connecting to themselves without the pressure to produce. Each student was provided a blank white canvas, a paint brush and paint colors and were allowed to paint anything they desired. This mindfulness class activity allowed them to use the creative process while enhancing their self-awareness, identify emotions, and reduce stress and anxiety after their busy school day. They joyfully explored colors, shapes, and textures.

## Focusing on Supportive Learning Environments



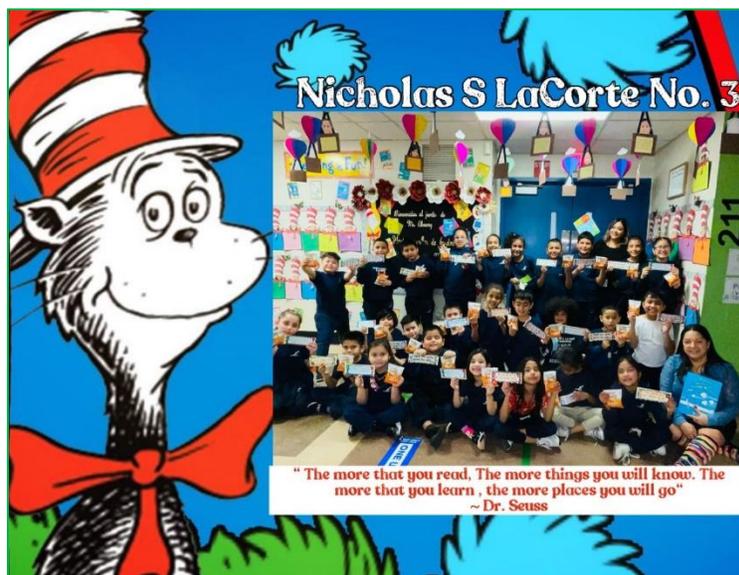
The sixth-grade students in Mr. Carmazino's Social Studies classes, from **Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29**, worked on a project entitled Culture Box. By creating the box, students had the opportunity to promote aspects of their culture in a creative and fun way. The teacher, along with classmates, got a better insight to their peers through this project. Students put artifacts in the box that represent their individual culture. Students also shared their personal stories, as they participated in a verbal presentation during class. The lesson's objective focused on the presentation of diverse cultures and the understanding of how surrounding yourself with diverse groups of people can enrich your life.

## Friends Care, Friends Share

**Donald Stewart ECC School No. 51's** school community participated in the annual international Social Emotional Learning Day by engaging students in activities about kindness, friendship, sharing and caring. This year's theme was *Finding Common Ground, Pursuing Common Good*. Teachers infused their school motto *Friends Care, Friends Share* throughout the day to foster social emotional learning. They read books about building friendships and wrote a letter for a friend in their classroom. Students labeled their work by writing messages of friendship, and kindness.



## Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3

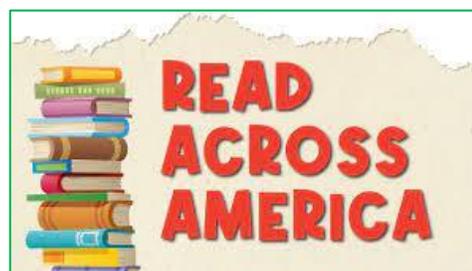


Students were eager to participate in School No. 3's Read Across America week. It was filled with fun and exciting activities with Dr. Seuss's literature, incorporated both in English and Spanish for the bilingual students. Mrs. Alvarez's third grade bilingual class participated in a 'book tasting' activity, where they read a different Dr. Seuss book every day that week and wrote a review on each book. Students enjoyed giving their feedback and rating each book as a book reviewer would. Along with reading daily, they received a snack and bookmark to make it more enjoyable.



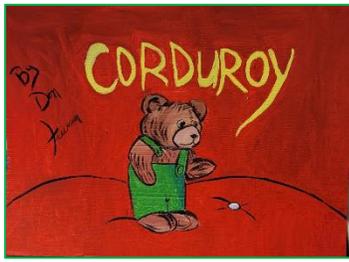
## Terence C. Reilly School No. 7

Terence C. Reilly welcomed several special guest readers throughout Read Across America Week! Students were given the opportunity to experience many different literary genres and partake in a variety of distinct hands-on activities. It was a fun and enjoyable week for all students and team members.



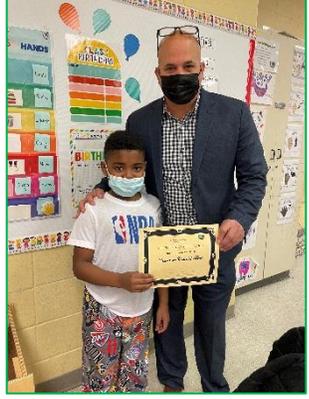
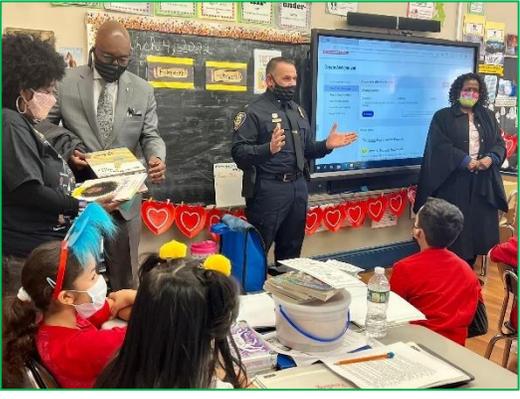
### iPrep Academy School No. 8

During the week of March 1<sup>st</sup>, students participated in *Read Across America Week*, organized by teachers Mrs. Esposito, Mrs. Cortes, and Mrs. Porto. Students were invited to read a silly story, present their culture through fashion, wear Wacky Wednesday attire, have a Crazy Hair Day, participate in Hearing Loss Awareness Day (Organized by Ms. Schwartz) by wearing gold, grey, or yellow and participate in Pajama Day. Eighth grade students assisted in painting large posters of classic books. First and second grade students created their own class story called *If I Made a City* in collaboration with their art teacher, Mrs. Serralheiro, and classroom teachers, which will be published with Student Treasures publishing.



### Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics Technology and the Arts School No. 9

This year's national theme: Reading Liberty and Justice for All, allowed to invite influential community members to share their story and an inspiring book. Dignitaries, such as Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Elizabeth Police Chief Giacomo Sacca, Director of the Elizabeth Police Earl Graves, Councilman Carlos L. Torres, Councilwoman Patricia Perkins-Auguste. Other notable advocates of children, Elizabeth Police Officer Brian Carvalho, and Undersheriff Amilcar Colon empowered scholars to dream beyond the classroom.



### Elmora School No. 12

Everyone participated in engaging and interactive activities that fueled around reading. Board Member Jerry Jacobs visited and read to elementary students.

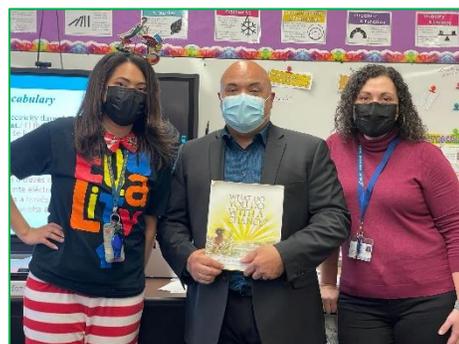
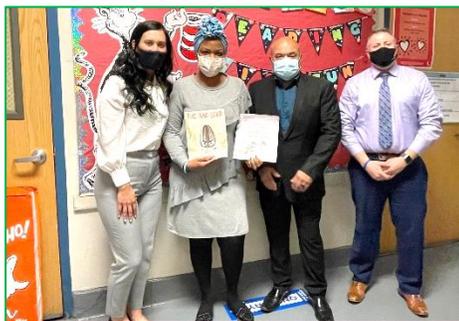
AVID eighth grade students read to third grade classes. Students' favorite activity was when they dressed up as their favorite character; 8<sup>th</sup> Graders dressed up as characters from a novel they read this year, "The Outsiders."

Math was incorporated as teachers had students create graphs of which books, they enjoyed reading and then tallied the results. A favorite at School 12 was when second grade students participated in the activity of designing ways to save the Truffula Trees, after they read Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*.



### Abraham Lincoln School No.14

Read Across America was celebrated with activities which included a Character Parade, a visit from Dr. Seuss, many guest readers, and themed-dress days for students, faculty, and staff.



## Christopher Columbus School No. 15

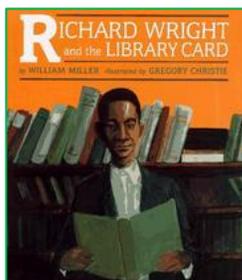
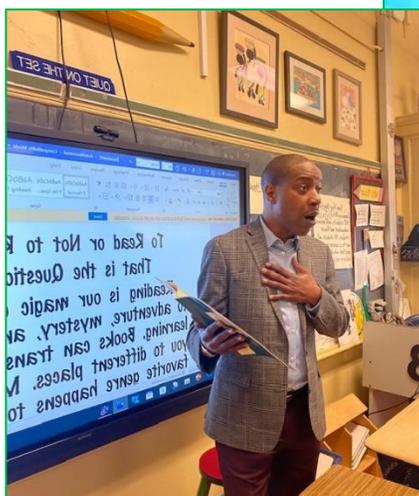
Students and staff celebrated Read Across America and had a visit from special guest, Board Member Jerry Jacobs. Board Member Jacobs spent time with students reading to them and engaging them in discussion and thought-provoking questions. The school community recognizes the importance of reading and the critical role it plays in activating imagination, creating a love and joy for learning, and in inspiring children to achieve their dreams!



## Madison-Monroe School No. 16

What is Read Across America Week without special guests? Former Assemblyman Jamel Holley visited Mrs. Phyllis Taub's fifth grade students. He spoke to the students about goal setting and how important it is to work hard to achieve those dreams.

Students learned Mr. Holley was the youngest mayor to be elected in Roselle and what his role was as Assemblyman. Mr. Holley proudly shared that the neighboring town of Roselle, was the first community lit by Thomas Edison's incandescent light bulb. Mr. Holley read *Richard Wright and the Library Card*. He also made a promise to return for a visit to see each student's very own library card! The students had a splendid morning with their distinguished guest.



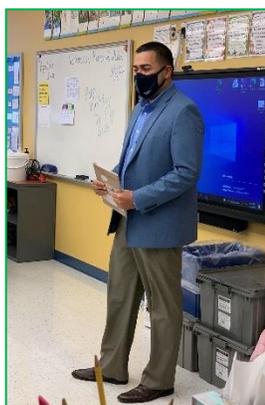
## Victor Mravlag School No. 21

Scholars in Ms. Cerullo's Pre-K class were thrilled to have a visit from Union County Commissioner, Sergio Granados. Mr. Granados read, Dr. Seuss' *There's a Wocket in my Pocket!* and asked scholars to share their favorite food. Pizza was the hands-down favorite!



## William F. Halloran School No. 22

There were many guest leaders from the school community to model the love and importance of reading. Teachers encourage students to read daily because today's readers become tomorrow's leaders! Guest readers included Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Cedeño, Union County Commissioner, Sergio Granados, Supervisor of Guidance, Anthony DiDonato, and Board Members - Stefanie Pestana, Jerry Jacobs, and Maria Carvalho.



## Nicholas M. Butler School No. 23

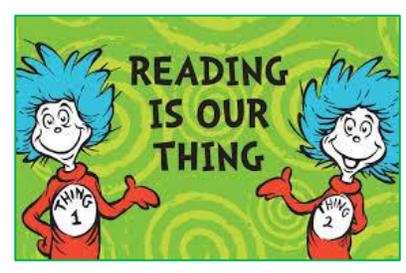


During Black History Month and Read Across America celebrations, students and team members had the pleasure of welcoming Board Members - Charlene B. Dorgely, Jerry Jacobs and Stanley Neron to school as guest readers. The Board Members visited and read to several first and second grade classes.

An eighth-grade science class had a surprise visit from Board Member Neron who spent time motivating and encouraging them to do their best and finish the year strong. Additionally, Commissioner Dorgely participated in a gallery walk highlighting cultural boxes created by the students and their families to help others learn about their diverse cultures.

## Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29

School No. 29 had the pleasure of hosting various guest readers throughout the week. Visitors included Union County Commissioners Sergio Granados and Lourdes Leon, Board Member Iliana Chevres, Councilman Carlos Torres, and Dr. Kathy Badalis & Ms. Lourdes Couto from the department of Staff Development & Innovative Programs. These wonderful leaders took time to read to kindergarten and second grade students. Aside from reading and sharing their love for books, they also took time to speak to students about the importance of education, community service and being a good friend.



## Donald Stewart ECC School No. 51



During this nationwide event, students and team members participated in various school-wide events and activities that were designed to promote literacy among young children. In honor of this event, the school commemorated a few of Dr. Seuss' wonderful books by creating birthday cards for the author, wore silly hats and socks, and graphed whether they would try green eggs and ham for breakfast. On Friday, students and staff wore pajamas to school for Reading Under the Stars. The classrooms were transformed into a stargazing extravaganza using flashlights as shooting stars flew over students' heads. Students, in Ms. Wilkes' class, had the honor of a guest reader Union County Commissioner Sergio Granados, who read "The Cat in The Hat" to the children under the stars.

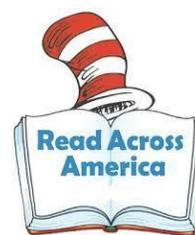
## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., ECC School No 52

The children enjoyed Read Across America festivities which included: reading of Dr. Seuss books, counting, and sorting, coloring, cutting, retelling of stories, drawings, and role playing.

The week concluded with *Seussville Festival* activities included: Arts & Crafts, Musical Chairs, 1 Fish, 2 Fish Matching Game, ABC Matching, Card Stacking, Fish Number Identification. The children were visited by two Cats in the Hat!



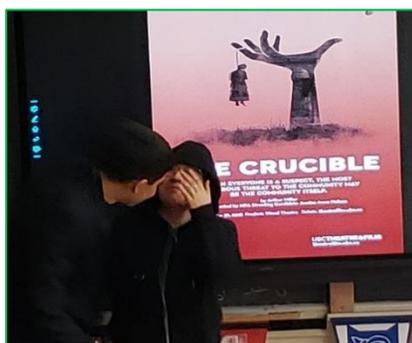
## John E. Dwyer Technology Academy & Robert Morris School No. 18



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy Annex students spent time reading in English and Spanish to the Pre-K children from Robert Morris School No. 18 Annex during Read Across America Week!

### Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

Ms. Banks' seniors and sophomores had a blast writing and acting out their own plays! Seniors added a scene to *The Crucible*, while sophomores rewrote Julius Caesar to reflect modern times. Students collaborated on their scripts (that included vocabulary and of course, stage directions) and planned their scenes for opening day. Bravo to these young actors and actresses on a job well done!



## Celebrating Black History Month



Mrs. Luzardo's fourth grade class, from **Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27**, did an amazing job while researching an African American of their choice. They wrote a report, presented the information to the rest of the class, and they also created a model figure using a recycled soda or water bottle. They dressed up their bottle to look like their historical figure.

*"Never be limited by other people's limited imaginations."* - Dr. Mae Jemison



## Lockers Are Not Just for Storage Anymore!

The fourth-grade bilingual students of Mrs. Fontaine, from **Joseph Battin School No. 4**, creatively displayed their Black History Bottle Buddy locker projects for the building community to see. Challenged with the task of choosing a historical figure and designing the setting for the inside of a locker, students were utilizing their language arts, math, science, social studies, public speaking, and art skills to complete their projects. The students were so proud of all the compliments they were receiving from under and upper classmen as well as staff. "It is like we have a museum outside," said one of the students with pride. Whoever said history projects were boring never used a locker as a display case.

## Civil Rights Speaker

On February 25, a small group of **J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy** students with their US History teacher, Vanessa Hernandez, participated in a virtual Q&A webinar with Bobby Battle, the former Director of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action for the New Jersey Judiciary and a retired Air Force Colonel.

Mr. Battle is an EEO consultant and public speaker on Civil Rights. Mr. Battle spoke about the intersectionality of the law and race through his life experiences. Bollwage students had their questions about civil rights answered. Superior Court of New Jersey hosted the online webinar.



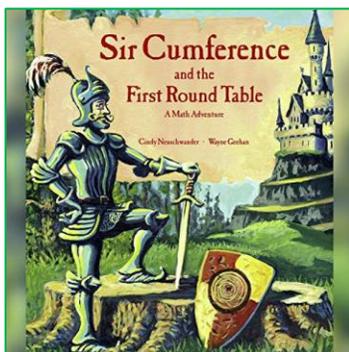
## PI Day



**Madison Monroe School No. 16** middle school students, led by Mr. Kaplan, math teacher, celebrated PI-Day by providing various PI-Day art activities to students from kindergarten through third grade at the annex building. Middle school students helped younger grade students understand the concept of PI by introducing them to circles and ratios by using paper plates. Students were asked to color the paper plate as a pizza pie and cut it in various slices. Some students also used plastic cups to trace circles and color them using colored markers or paint.



## Sir Cumference



The middle school math team of **Victor Mvavlag School No. 21** celebrated Pi Day on March 14th (3/14). Middle school math teachers Ms. Bernatowicz-Mendez, Mrs. Medeiros-Dias and Mrs. Borges combined their classes to discover the relationship between the circumference and diameter of circular objects. Scholars were rotating between stations that included generating lists of words that started with "pi", reading *Sir Cumference* book series, creating a *Pi City Scape*, *Rolling the Dice for Pi* activity, and calculating ratio of circumference to diameter of circular objects. Students were excited to celebrate the first annual Pi Day.



## A Day to Remember 2-22-22



Students and staff at **Madison-Monroe School No. 16** took advantage of a perfectly aligned calendar date to hold a “Tuesday” celebration like no other.

With the date being 2-22-22, students celebrated the day by wearing tutus, ties, or “twos” of anything. Students also enjoyed fun classroom activities throughout the day using the number 2.

## Harmony Power Award

Lasmitha Thavarasa, student from **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25**, received a Harmony Power Award for being kind and generous to another student.

When Lasmitha saw how disappointed a fellow student was when he did not come in first place, Lasmitha thought about his disappointment over the weekend.

On Monday, when students returned to school, Lasmitha approached the Physical Education teachers and offered to give the younger student the gift card that she won. Her teachers tried explaining that she won fairly but Lasmitha insisted that she understood what she was doing and wanted to model the school’s motto, “Together We Soar!”



## Pawsative



Paw Passes are a positive behavior incentive at **William F. Halloran School No. 22**. Students were celebrated this month with a breakfast for doing "Pawsative" acts around the school community. Way to go Huskies!

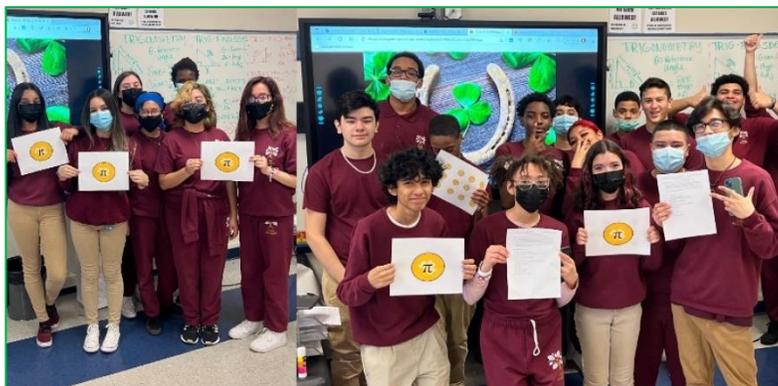
## Multiplication Madness

March Madness is in full force at **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26**! Third graders from Mrs. Boydston, Mrs. Hadwen, and Mrs. Norek's classes have been practicing their multiplication facts with one another and competing weekly with their teams to move forward and score points for their teams!

Multiplication is an important standard from third grade and on; making it fun is the best way to learn facts.



## PI (trick)'s Day Scavenger Hunt



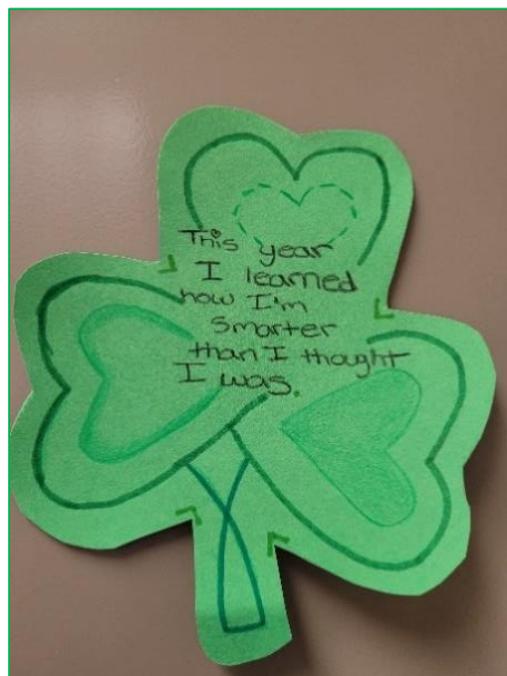
Mrs. Roman's and Mr. Pascual's mathematics classes, from **JVJ STEM Academy School No. 92**, celebrated PI Day, and St. Patrick's with a scavenger hunt.

Students worked in groups of three working together to find listed qualifications around the school. The groups had to seek things such as 3 calculators, 1 principal, 4 water bottles, 1 gym teacher, and 5 teachers to learn the order of the digits of PI. If they were able to find all items, it led them to a golden PI coin.



## Shamrocks at EHS

Freshmen at **Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy** spent St. Patrick's Day spreading good luck, good cheer, and a piece of wisdom learned this year. The PE classes designed shamrocks in the colors of Ireland with messages of what they learned, or a positive change made this year. The Girls Empowerment Club then spread the shamrocks throughout the building posting them on each student's locker.



## Reason to Celebrate

There is always a reason to celebrate. **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology, and the Arts School No. 9** recognizes Irish Heritage Month, Women's History Month, and the love of learning.

Every morning scholars and team members join in reciting the Pledges and the JDA Creed. In addition, the women are recognized as the REAL WOMEN of JDA by sharing their story with the school community.

Teachers also select scholars who are celebrating their birthday. On St. Patrick's Day, students, Travis and Angel, shared their birthday with Miss Gurlacz, a fourth grade Math and Science teacher and proud Irish. That morning, student Arianna Rivera recited her "Goal Poem."



## How to catch a Leprechaun



In honor of St. Patrick's Day, the students in Mrs. Perez's kindergarten class from **Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy School No. 30** read the book titled *How to Catch a Leprechaun* by Adam Wallace and Andy Elkerton. After reading the story the students created their own leprechauns and wrote about what they would do if they found a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.

## Special Visit

At **Victor Mravlag School No. 21** Students, staff, family, and community members were greeted on March 17<sup>th</sup> with by Kevin Murphy, who played the bagpipers during arrival. The school was a sea of green as students wore the color of the emerald isle. During morning announcements, students heard a brief history and fun facts about Ireland. Bhí an-spraoi ag baint leis!



## Geometric Laser Pointer Construction Activity

The **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** STEM Club students made geometric laser pointers. Ms. Ayesha Ali, the STEM Club Advisor, explains that with every project of the STEM Club, this one also created a great deal of curiosity in the students. They avidly built three independent variable resistance circuits, activated motors, learned about potentiometers and of course, laser pointers! The laser pointers were made with actual electronic parts. By doing this activity, the students learned how all the above-mentioned parts function in tandem, to create amazing geometric patterns with the laser.

Student Edwin Suljic explained, “I regularly attend STEM Club activities because engineering interests me. I learn to put together objects that we could use daily, and that gives me incentive to keep coming to STEM Club activities.”

Another student, Ziaul Prodan stated, “I am interested in the scientific and engineering aspects of each STEM Club project. I learn many physical and chemical concepts by participating in STEM Club activities.”

Mr. George Mikros, the Principal of Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy, commended the work done by the STEM Club stating, “The STEM Club is enabling our students to reach their academic potential through creativity and exploration with critical skills built into each project-based lesson.”



## National Honor Societies

**John E. Dwyer Technology Academy's** students joined together to celebrate their induction into the Art, English, Math, and Science National Honor Societies for the 2021-2022 school year! Students were joined by their advisors and peers as they recited their pledges, received their certificates, and celebrated with a post ceremony celebration!



## Garden Time

**John E. Dwyer Technology Academy's** students work with Mr. Miles and the class council to plant vegetables in the outdoor garden as the weather breaks. Students are hoping to donate lettuce and other vegetables to the local homeless coalition by June!



## Auto Technology

Students, from Mr. Yaniak's Auto Technology class, of the **Thomas Edison Career & Technical Academy** participated in paid internships. Jonathan Valencia, Sekou Mars and Gabriel Blanco were employed at Cleveland Auto & Tire Co. in Elizabeth. The collaboration of the CTE program and Cleveland Tire & Auto provided these students meaningful work experience meanwhile addressing the workforce needs of this 4<sup>th</sup> generational business.



## Kids Heart Challenge



Students from **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25** participated in the *Kids Heart Challenge* during their physical education class. Students in grades K-3 rotated through various jump rope stations. Students in grades 4-8 competed in jump rope competitions. At the end of the week, winners from each class competed in a school-wide jump rope competition. The overall jump rope champion was Lasmitha Thavarasa from eighth grade, room 301. During the Kids Heart Challenge week, students were asked to collect donations for the American Heart Association in support of Heart Month. The school raised a total of \$3,098.55. Way to go School No. 25!!!

## Lollipop Moments at Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

Members of **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy's** AVID Leadership Club led by Ms. Zimmerman have embraced the ideal that true leadership is more about building others up than telling them what to do. To encourage their fellow students, club members are promoting a "lollipop moment" at Hamilton.

Club members viewed a TEDx Toronto talk by Drew Dudley that explained "Lollipop Moments" are those times when a kind word or gesture serves to brighten up your day. The students decided that they needed more lollipop moments and needed to let people know when they happen! As a result, the AVID Leadership Club distributed several hundred lollipops with tags attached to them containing positive affirmations to encourage students to persevere through the rest of the school year.

The following message was emailed to all lollipop with an encouraging message, take it and smile knowing that together we can build each other up and lend a helping hand when needed. Then, do the same for someone else. By passing a kind word or helpful gesture to another student you are being the leaders we know you are meant to be."



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in the month of  
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